Message Text

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JERUSA 02499 091102Z PAGE 01 **ACTION SS-25**

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1698 INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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S E C R E T JERUSALEM 2499

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1&2

TAGS: PBOR, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF

SUBJ: UNIFIL PROBLEMS WITH HADDAD AND SHIDIAK

REF: A. USDEL (CAMP DAVID) DTG 081533Z SEP 78, B. JERUSALEM 2493, C. TEL AVIV 12041

1. UN SOURCE REPORTS CONTRARY TO GAZIT STATEMENTS (REF C) HADDAD AND SHIDIAK ARE CONTINUING TO PREVENT FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT BY UNIFIL AND ROADBLOCKS REMAIN, MOREOVER, IDF CONTINUES TO TRY TO GET UN TO ACKNOWLEDGE FORMALLY STATUS OF HADDAD AND SHIDIAK AS MILITIA COMMANDERS AND THEIR RIGHT TO IMPOSE CONDITIONS ON THE CARRYING OUT OF UNIFIL'S MANDATE UNDER SC RESES 425 AND 426.

2. FOLLOWING IS UPDATE FROM ERSKINE TO URQUHART DATED SEPT 8. QUOTE:

A. NO CHANGE IN SITUATION SINCE OUR CCNY265, CONTROVERSY STILL CONTINUES CONCERNING MEMORANDUM.

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B. SINCE YOUR NYQ1207, A REVISED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN PREPARED BY IDF REPRESENTATIVE. SOME OF THE OBJECTION-ABLE PARTS HAVE BEEN REMOVED, HOWEVER, PARAGRAPHS 8 AND 9 QUOTED HEREUNDER ARE STILL NOT ACCEPTABLE TO US. QUOTE WARA 8. ALL THE ABOVE MENTIONED LOCATIONS AND OTHER UNIFIL POSITIONS WILL HAVE FREEDOM OF LOGISTICS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MOVEMENT ON ROADS MARKED FOR THIS PURPOSE ONLY UNQUOTE. WE WERE INFORMED THAT SUCH MOVEMENT MUST BE COORDINATED WITH THE IDF ONE DAY IN ADVANCE.

QUOTE PARA 9. THE ABOVE MENTIONED LOCATIONS AND UNIFIL ELEMENTS WILL NOT BE USED BY UNIFIL AS AN OBSTACLE OF THE FORCES UNDER THE COMMAND OF MAJOR HADDAD AND MAJOR SHIDIAK WHICH WILL MAINTAIN THEIR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND OPERATIONS IN THE AREAS CONTROLLED BY THEM UNQUOTE.

C. IDF REQUESTED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE RECEIPT AND OUR AGREMENT TO THE REVISED MEMORANDUM TO BE SENT TO THE LIAISON OFFICE. IDF NORTHERN COMMAND. IN VIEW OF OUR CCNY 265 AND YOUR NYQ 1231 WE HAVE INSISTED IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THAT WE WOULD NOT ENTER INTO ANY WRITTEN COMMITMENT OR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ANY DOCUMENTS FROM MAJOR HADDAD AND MAJOR SHIDIAK.

D. THE PRESENT POSITION REGARDING THIS ISSUE IS THAT THE IDF HAVE STATED THAT THE REVISED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WILL BE REPLACED BY A LETTER FROM THE IDF LIAISON OFFICER, NORTHERN COMMAND, TO UNIFIL IN WHICH WILL BE INCLUDED ALL THE POINTS OF THE MEMORANDUM. THEY INDICATED THAT AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE EXPECTED.

E. LT COLS GGG GAL AND YYY HAMIZRACHI HAVE INDICATED THIS AFTERNOON 8 SEPT 1978 THAT WE CAN PROCEED WITH THE TAKING UP SECRET

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OF POSITIONS WITHOUT WAITING FOR THE PROPOSED LETTER WHICH WILL FOLLOW BY THE MORNING OF SUNDAY 10 SEPT 1978. IT WAS ALSO INDICATED THAT ON THE TAKING UP OF POSITIONS THE EXISTING ROAD BLOCKS MENTIONED IN PREVIOUS CABLE WOULD BE REMOVED.

F. IN VIEW OF YOUR NYQ 1207 PLEASE ADVISE FOR FURTHER ACTION. SHOULD OUR FURTHER DEPLOYMENT UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES BE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU, DEPLOYMENT COULD COMMENCE BY SUNDAY 10 SEPT. DETAILED REPORT COULD THEN FOLLOW ON MONDAY 11 SEPT AS REQUESTED. UNQUOTE.

3. FOLLOWING IS SYG'S REPLY ALSO DATED SEP 8. QUOTE

A. FOLLOWING ARE PRINCIPLES ON WHICH WE SHOULD PROCEED IN THIS SITUATION:

AAA. IDF AND CHRISTIAN MILITARY LEADERS CANNOT IMPOS OR CAN WE ACCEPT, CONDITIONS ON UNIFIL'S DEPLOYMENT OR FUNCTIONING, WHICH IS A MATTER OF RIGHTS UNDER SECCO RESOLUTIONS;

BBB. UNIFIL CANNOT ENTER INTO ANY AGREEMENT RECOGNIZING STATUS OF HADDAD OR SHIDIAK, ALTHOUGH LEBANESE GOVT, IN RECENT LETTER

TO SECGEN, DOES NOT OBJECT TO PRACTICAL DE FACTO ARRANGEMENT WHICH DO NOT IMPLY RECOGNITION.

CCC. UNIFIL CANNOT RECOGNIZE AUTHORITY OF IDF TO DICTATE CONDITIONS FOR DEPLOYMENT IN LEBANON, EVEN AS AGENT FOR HADDAD AND SHIDIAK.

B. IN PRACTICE THIS MEANS:

AAA. NO EXCHANGE OF LETTERS, OR EVEN RECEIPT OF LETTERS, FROM IDF ON THIS MATTER CAN BE ACCEPTED;

BBB. NO LIMITATIONS OR CONDITIONS ON RIGHTFUL UNIFIL DEPLOYMENT IN AREA OF OPERATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED; SECRET

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CCC. HOWEVER, SUBJECT TO ABOVE PRINCIPLES, UNIFIL WILL DEAL ON PRACTICAL BASIS WITH DE FACTO FORCES, AND WITH IDF IN GOOD OFFICES CAPACITY AND WILL PROCEED WITH FULL DEPLOYMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND AS A MATTER OF RIGHT UNDER SECCO RESULUTION:

DDD. TO THIS END IT WILL MAINTAIN CONTACT FOR ALL NECESSARY PRACTICAL PURPOSES WITH ALL PARTIES CONCERNED.

C. IN SHORT, WE SHOULD TAKE ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES TO PRESS ON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT COMPROMISING UNIFIL'S POSITIONS AND RIGHTS OR POSITIONS AND RIGHTS OF LEBANESE GOVT. IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO BEN BALL THAT WHILE UNIFIL WISHES TO DEPLOY FULLY SOONEST, IT CANNOT BE USED FOR PURPOSE OF CONFERRING STATUS ON FORCES IN LEBANESE NOT RECOGNIZE BY LEBANESE GOVT. YOU SHOULD LEAVE NO DOUBT THAT UNIFIL IS PREPARED TO START FURTHER DEPLOYMENT IMMEDIATE.

D. FOR SAUNDERS: PLEASE INFORM LEBANESE AUTHORITIES OF ABOVE POSITION, RECALLING TUENI'S RECENT LETTER TO SECGEN. UNQUOTE. NEWLIN

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